



Sheila Dixon

Mayor,
Baltimore

250 City Hall • Baltimore Maryland 21202
410-396-3835 • Fax: 410-576-9425

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 29, 2007

CONTACT:

Anthony McCarthy
(410) 869-6079 (Cell)

Mayor Dixon Celebrates Grand Re-Opening of Lake Montebello

Public works project completed nine months ahead of schedule.

Baltimore, MD (August 29, 2007) – Mayor Sheila Dixon joined community leaders, neighbors, elected officials and recreation enthusiasts to celebrate the grand re-opening of Lake Montebello.

“Lake Montebello is a treasure for the people of Baltimore, and it is our responsibility to keep it that way for years to come,” said Mayor Dixon. “We did just about everything asked of us by the community, and I think the result is absolutely beautiful.”

Lake Montebello is an integral part of the water system for metropolitan Baltimore as well as a popular recreational landmark. The lake is composed of residual water from the filtration process. With new technology that water will, in the next few years, begin to be re-processed into drinking water. The lake has been newly dredged to remove sediment, thereby increasing storage capacity and offering protection to aquatic life, the Herring Run and the Chesapeake Bay.

Included in this work are other improvements such as a new resurfaced roadway around the perimeter of the lake for vehicular and pedestrian/bike traffic, a landscaped median, new decorative lighting, new ornamental fencing, decorative trash containers, and removal of invasive phragmites and weeds along the shoreline, replaced with new hardy shrubs and grasses. Additional crosswalks have been added around the perimeter for the increased safety of school children and other pedestrians.

Attendees viewed photographs of the lake and surrounding area taken 100 years ago. These were printed from glass negative plates discovered at the facility and are being publicly displayed for the first time. They will be on temporary display on the fence surrounding the lake.

Lake Montebello improvements were made by Synagro Mid-Atlantic in conjunction with the Baltimore City Departments of Public Works and Transportation. The project design was done by Whitman, Requardt and Associates. The total cost was \$15 million and has been completed nine months ahead of schedule.

###

Please visit our website at www.baltimorecity.gov